

them. Next year Swynderby had appeared both in Mon-mouth town on the banks of the Lower Wye, and in Whitney on the extreme west border of Hereford and of England. Although he was often forced by his pursuers to keep to the more outlying districts, he easily succeeded in avoiding capture, for the country west of Malvern rises up in range beyond range of hills to this day largely clothed in forests, and intersected by steep lanes and bridle-paths which must in those days have been mere tracks. Swynderby used to hide in a certain desert wood called Derwoldswood.' Again and again Trevenant summoned him, but to no purpose. Once only, under a safe-conduct from the Bishop, he appeared, and read before his judges and a large crowd of spectators a document answering one by one the charges made against him. He denied that he had preached the invalidity of Sacraments administered by a sinful priest; what he had really said was that 'There is no man, Pope nor Bishop, prelate nor curate, that binds soothly verily and ghostly,' but inasmuch as his decisions are God's decisions also. He had been falsely accused of denying the Keal Presence, for he had affirmed that body and bread were present together. He agreed with Wyclifte that confession might be useful but never necessary. He mocked at indulgences in good set terms. * Lightly they might be lost, drenched or brent, or a rat might eat them, his indulgence then were lost. Therefore, sire, have me excused, I know not these terms ; teach me these terms by God's law and truly I will learn them.' He denied the Pope's power of remitting sin or deserved punishment, he attacked the friars and denounced the worship of images. Having thus defended himself in English before the people and the Bishop, he disappeared as mysteriously as he had come. Trevenant was as good as his word, and did not attempt to arrest him before he made his escape; the days of the Council of Constance and * no' faith with heretics' had not yet come. As he refused to appear again without such another safe-conduct, he was condemned in his absence, on the ground of the answer he had put in. He appealed to the King's Council at Westminster against this condemnation, declaring that he had asked the Bishop to confute him out of